

## **Q & A – ISAT Spring 2008 Score Report Webex Training**

Q. If we send home the preliminary student report with the students' report cards this summer, do we still need to mail home the final student reports when available on June 13th?

A. Yes, preliminary reports were optional. Final reports are required and can be distributed in the fall.

Q. If we are not testing 9th graders how are we going to tell growth for 10th graders from Spring to Spring?

A. This year's 10<sup>th</sup> graders will have growth calculated since they tested in Spring 2007. However, next year spring to spring growth will not be calculated for 10<sup>th</sup> grade students.

Q. Is the average growth (on the Growth report) from a normed scale score base on group or from the single session's average from the students in that scale group?

A. The state averages are calculated using the state average scale score for a given grade. For example, fall to spring growth is calculate by subtracting the Fall 2007 average scale score for a grade from the Spring 2008 average scale score for that same grade. Spring to spring growth would be calculated by subtracting the previous grade's average scale score from the current grade's average scale score.

Q. What about students that did not complete part 2 of the test?

A. There will be codes for students who did not attempt part 2.

Q. What about special education students' growth who didn't have an extender because of audio?

A. Growth reports for students who did not have an extender (paper and audio) will display the student's NCLB score with a code to indicate they took audio or paper.

Q. You indicated that school and district growth summaries are based on NCLB + extender, so are audio and paper students' growth excluded from those reports?

A. Students who took audio and paper test will have the NCLB score displayed on the Growth Report.

Q. Can we compare the fall interim to the Spring Extender for the Growth report?

A. Yes.

Q. Is the extender score based on both NCLB AND EXTENDER?

A. Yes.

Q. Is there a way to keep the whole test history for the student on the growth report rather than dropping off test results?

A. Eventually there will not be room. Therefore, we have made the decision to keep 4 administrations of scores on the growth report.

Q. Is the format for posting these reports negotiable? If we have 2 sets of reports for each student, we run into a large sorting issue. If we had one report for each grade with all the reports, we can run them and not have to sort them.

A. Not at this time.

Q. Since students won't receive these until fall, we cannot SORT these to new schools. In other words 5th grade students moved to middle schools and 8th grade schools moved to high schools. PDF make it impossible to sort to the next schools.

A. Unfortunately we don't have any advice. We can look at options for the future.

Q. When are individual student reports available?

A. June 13

Q. You mentioned that information will be on the back of the report. Does that mean you will send us hard copies of the reports?

A. No, we are not sending hard copies. If you print the NCLB ISRs 2-sided, the NCLB ISR will be on the front and the PLDs will be on the back.

Q. Will there be instructions sent on how to print front-and-back on standard printers?

A. No, we do not provide instructions for this because every printer is different.

Q. What is the average growth rate increase?

A. The average growth will not be available until final reports are released.

Q. The students who took the audio version did not have the extender portion. Does that mean they will not get a growth report?

A. Students who took audio or paper versions will get a growth report. Their growth reports will display the NCLB only score along with a code noting that they used audio or paper.

Q. What should the growth rate be for a student in each category?

A. There is no specific growth target. The good thing is that the scale score gains are all the same by subject. That is, a math scale score gain of 20 points is the same whether it is from 200 to 220 or from 260 to 280.

Q. Will the Exit Exam history report show more than two years of history?

A. Yes, it will show up to 9 administrations.

Q. Where will we find the Science reports?

A. For grades 5, 7, and 10, the Science reports will be right after the reading, math, and LU reports. For example, a grade 5 student will have a Reading, Mathematics, and Language Usage ISR followed by the PLDs and then the Science ISR followed by the PLDs.

Q. Can you please remind us what PLD stands for?

A. PLD stands for Proficiency Level Descriptor.

Q. Do you have an estimation of the time of day the reports will be available on the 13th?

A. The reports should be available by 10 am Mountain time.

Q. The postage for our small, rural district will be tremendous, since these reports will only be available once the students are gone. Can't this be remedied in the future?

A. The reports can be sent home with students in fall instead of mailing them.

Q. Is the spring file layout the same as the winter file layout?

A. No, it will be different.

Q. Is the Spring file layout the same as last Spring?

A. No, it is different.

Q. Will the audio flag in the export file under accommodations be required for fall?

A. The audio flag will be required for those students who need the audio accommodation. Starting in the fall you will be able to upload it in the SEF.

Q. Have the Student Information vendors for the SDE been contacted with the new file layout?

A. We will send this to the vendors.

Q. Why is the summer test window July 7 through August 1 which is six weeks after most schools are out? We need a June test window for grades 11 and 12?

A. Please contact OSBE with your concerns.

Q. What will the audio code be?

A. "A" for audio.

Q: Will percentile rankings ever be available as opposed to percent correct?

A: Percentiles will not be provided by DRC for Spring 2008, but OSBE and DRC are discussing the possibility of including percentiles on score reports for the Spring 2009 administration. For Spring 2008, percentiles will be computed by Dr. Bert Stoneberg and will be made available by OSBE before school begins in Fall 2008

Q: What does AYP stand for?

A: AYP stands for Adequate Yearly Progress

Q: Are you looking at putting in the Lexile scores?

A: No, not at this time

Q: Is there a possibility for the future (Lexile scores)?

A: This is not something that we are currently discussing with OSBE. If you feel that this is something that you would like, we would suggest communicating this to OSBE.

Q: Error band represents student likelihood of scoring in that range with 68% probability?

A: Yes.

Q: What happens if a student's total score is basic, yet the error range might include the proficient level?

A: Total scale score is still basic. The student may be close to being proficient, but the student will still be considered with at basic proficiency level.

Q: What if this is your first test? What will the box look like then?

A: Actual growth will not be able to be seen - there will not be any growth points.

Q: The old growth charts we got were based on 10 point RIT bands. Is this still true?

A: No, this is no longer true. The growth is based strictly on the actual growth of the student (scale score).

Q: Will average growth be shown by ethnicity and other demographics?

A: No, only the state average is provided.

Q: So the average growth is for all students: high and low, rather than comparing low students to low and high students to high?

A: Yes, the average growth is for all students.

Q: So, no students with audio will be included, correct?

A: Students who used audio received a valid total scale score and will be included on the NCLB plus Extender reports.

Q: Will these be available for less than 10 students? (Proficiency Level Summaries)

A: If there are categories with less than 10 students, these will not be reported. Instead, you will see an asterisk "\*\*"

Q: What number will be used for reporting demographic groups? Is it still 34?

A: Yes, it is still 34.

Q: Why was the decision made to display proficiency labels on the end of test screen so students could see the levels?

A: This was a decision made at the state level (OSBE).

Note from Margo: State level decision means that we can have a conversation though our state organization. Idaho assessment team makes those decisions with input from our stakeholders. Your avenue for input is through your ISAT Program Manager at the OSBE Office.

Q: How do we get parent brochures? This is our first year and didn't receive any.

A: Please send us your district information - [ISAT@datarecognitioncorp.com](mailto:ISAT@datarecognitioncorp.com) - and we can look into it.

Q: Is the file layout going to change every year?

A: We hope to keep the layout the same (as much as possible) going forward, but there still may be changes.

Q: For sophomores, when they make proficiency for graduation, what % do they have to get correct in the individual strands?

A: The total scale score is what determines proficiency. The strand scores are provided for additional information.

Q: Which report do you use for graduation purposes?

A: Graduation Test Summaries can be used for graduation purposes.

Q: Can we download student scores to input into a student management system?

A: Yes. The Student Data File, available on 6/13 can be used to input into a student management system.

Note from Margo about Graduation Requirement:

Regarding graduation requirement: For tests taken in 2007, if your student took advantage of the 3-point phase in score to pass the graduation requirement, he/she will show basic rather than proficient. It will be up to you to document the date, test passed, and apply the phase-in allowance.

Note from Margo about AYP Appeals:

Regarding AYP appeals: Idaho has asked for three amendments in our accountability plan; we expect to get a federal answer this week. We expect to post preliminary AYP on June 18. The window for appeals will start on that date and continue for 30 calendar days. I will keep you posted through my email list for superintendents and test coordinators.